

How to get out of vi

Part 2:

How to stay in vi and live

Wolfram Rösler

How to exit this bus?



STARECAT.COM

History

1969 Unix

1969 First moon landing

1976 vi

1982 Compact Disc

1983 C++

1984 Macintosh

1985 Windows

1991 Linux

1991 vim

2000 Wikipedia

2007 iPhone

2019 There are still people who don't know how to exit vi

Why still use it?

- Ubiquitous
- Common default
- No GUI required
- Edits anything
- Very fast
- Very few keystrokes needed
- Makes you look like a wizard

Warm-up: Text input

i	Insert at cursor position
a	Insert after cursor position
I	Add at beginning of current line
A	Add at end of current line
o	Add new line below
O	Add new line above

Press *Esc* after entering new text

Single letter commands

(not a complete list!)

<i>Arrow keys</i>	Move cursor
w	Move to next word
f _x	Move to next <i>x</i>
%	Move to matching)] }
n	Repeat last search
x	Delete character under cursor
r _x	Replace character with <i>x</i>

Can combine with counter

x	Delete character under cursor
10x	Delete 10 characters
w	Move to next word
3w	Advance three words
f,	Move to next comma
4f,	Move to 4 th next comma
r=	Replace character with equal sign
6r=	Replace six chars with equal signs

Can combine with commands

dd	Delete line
cc	Change line (finish with <i>Esc</i>)
10dd	Delete 10 lines
dw	Delete word
cw	Change word
d5w	Delete five words
df ,	Delete until next comma
c%	Change up to matching brace

The single greatest command of all

- Repeat last command

Finally: How to exit vi

ZZ	Save and exit
:X <i>Enter</i>	Save and exit
:wq <i>Enter</i>	Save and exit
:q <i>Enter</i>	Quit if nothing was changed
:q! <i>Enter</i>	Quit, discard changes

How the IP editing job was done

<code>/127</code> <i>Enter</i>	Go to beginning of IP
<code>cf1</code>	Change until end of IP
<code>localhost</code> <i>Esc</i>	Replace IP by host name
<code>n</code>	Repeat search
<code>.</code>	Repeat change
<code>n.n.n.</code>	until all IPs are done
<code>ZZ</code>	Save and exit

Resources

About vi <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vi>

About vim [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vim_\(text_editor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vim_(text_editor))

vi cheat sheet <https://duckduckgo.com/?q=vi+cheat+sheet&iax=1>

vi Tutorial <https://www.tutorialspoint.com/unix/unix-vi-editor.htm>

5 Minute Introduction <http://heather.cs.ucdavis.edu/~matloff/UnixAndC/Editors/ViIntro.html>

Where vi came from <https://twobithistory.org/2018/08/05/where-vim-came-from.html>

Pro vim tips <https://itsfoss.com/pro-vim-tips/>